A TRUE RELATION

Of the Manner of the

DEPOSING

OF

King Edward II.

Together with the

ARTICLES which were Exhibited againſt him in *PARLIAMENT.*

As alſo, An exact Account of the

Proceedings and Articles

AGAINST

King Richard II:

And the Manner of His

Depoſition and Reſignation

ACCORDING

To the Parliament-Roll it ſelf, where they are Recorded at large.

LONDON, Printed, and are to be Sold by *Richard Baldwin*, near the *Black Bull* in the *Old Bayley*, 1689.

UMI

A True

RELATION

Of the Manner of the

DEPOSITION

OF

King Edward II.

KIng *Edward* the Second, being misled by the unhappy Counsels of his Favourites and Minions, wholly neglected the Publick Intereſt of his Kingdom, to ſerve that of particular ambitious and wicked Perſons, whom he highly eſteemed, and to whoſe Conduct he had entirely reſigned himſelf. The Adminiſtration of the Government being in the Hands of this ſort of Men, the People of all Ranks were daily oppreſſed by their Inſolence and arbitrary Extravagance; which loſt the King the Affections of his Subjects: This begot the Troubles of the unhappy Reign of that Prince, the Diviſions at Court, and the Prevalency of the Favourites (with the Concurrence of other Cauſes) made a ſeparation for a time betwixt the King and

his Royal Conſort, the Queen; who, for theſe Reaſons, left the Kingdom, and went beyond Seas; and in the Year 1326. and the 19th. of the Kings Reign, ſhe returned into *England*, with her Son Prince *Edward*, and brought with her a ſmall Army, with an intention to remove thoſe evil Counſellers, who had ſo long abuſed the King and the Kingdom. Soon after her Arrival, moſt of the Earls and Barons (out of hatred to the King and the two *Spencers*, the two Eye-Sores of the Kingdom) repaired to her, and made up a very great Army: Whereupon the King iſſued out his Proclamation, commanding all his Subjects to reſiſt, oppoſe, and kill them (except the Queen, the Prince, and the Earl of *Kent*, which they ſhould take Priſoners, if they poſſibly could) and that no man ſhould hold any Correſpondence with them, nor adminiſter Victuals, or any other Aſſiſtance to them, under pain of forfeiting their Bodies and Eſtates: But the King being not able to oppoſe the Prevalency of the adverſe Party, and being deſerted by moſt of thoſe who had taken up Arms for him, was forced to fly into *Wales*, in hopes to find Shelter and Protection there; but thoſe hopes deceived him, as it appears in the Sequel of this Story: The King being fled, the Queen cauſes Proclamation to be made in her Army every day, that the King ſhould return, and receive his Kingdom, if he would conform himſelf to his Lieges: But the King not appearing according to this Proclamation, the Peers, and other Great Men of the Kingdom, held a Council at *Hereford*; wherein, it was reſolved, that Prince *Edward* ſhould be made *Cuſtos* of the Kingdom; which was accordingly done, and they all ſwore Fealty to him as *Cuſtos* of the Realm. Afterwards they made the Biſhop of *Norwich* Lord Chancellor, and the Biſhop of *Wincheſter* Lord High Treaſurer of *England*: Not long after, the King himſelf, and moſt of his Evil Counſellers were taken Priſoners, being betrayed by the *Welſh*, in whom they moſt confided. And in the Year 1327. *Hugh Spencer*, *Simon Reding*, *Baldock*, and others of the King's Party were Executed at *Hereford*. The King being thus taken, was convèyed to *London* about the Feaſt of *Epiphany*; where he was received with great Joy and Preſents; and ſome time after was convey'd from thence to *Kenelworth*. Then there was a Parliament held, wherein it was unanimouſly agreed, That the King was unworthy of the Crown, and that he juſtly deſerved to be depoſed, and in order to it, there were certain Articles drawn up againſt him in this Form following;

It is Agreed that Prince Edward *the King's Eldeſt Son, ſhall have the Government of the Kingdom, and that he ſhall be Crowned King for theſe Cauſes;*

FOR that the King, in reſpect of his own Qualifications, is not able or ſufficient to govern; for in all his Reign he hath been led and govern'd by others, to his own Diſhonour, and the Deſtruction of Holy Church, and all his People, without ever conſidering whether he did Good or Evil; neither did he ever take care to remedy any Miſchief was done; neither would he do it, when deſired by the Great and Wiſe Men of the Nation, or ſuffer it to be done by others.

II. *Item*, In all his Reign he would neither comply with, or believe any good Counſel which was given him, nor any way apply himſelf to the good Government of his Kingdom; but had wholly given himſelf to a Diſhonourable, Riotous way of Living, never minding the Affairs of his Kingdom.

III. *Item*, For want of good Government he loſt the Realm of *Scotland*, and other Lands and Seigniories in *Gaſcoygne*, and elſewhere, which his Father had left him in Peace.

IV. *Item*, By his Folly, Perverſeneſs, and Evil Counſel, he hath deſtroyed Holy Church, and impriſoned and oppreſſed the Eccleſiaſtical Perſons; and hath alſo impriſoned, baniſhed, diſinherited, and did unjuſtly put to Death many of the Peers and Great Men of the Land.

V. *Item*, Whereas he was bound by his Oath to do Juſtice to all Men, which he hath not done, for the ſake of his own Profit; and to gratifie his own Covetouſneſs, and that of his Evil Counſellors, who were about him; neither hath obſerved the other Points of his Coronation-Oath, as he was bound to do.

VI. *Item*,

VI. *Item*, He hath haraſſed his Kingdom, and did what lay in him to ruine both it and his People; and what is worſe, that in reſpect of Cruelty, and other Defects of his Perſon, he is found to be incorrigible, without any hopes of Amendment: All theſe Things are ſo notorious, that no Man can deny them.

The King being under confinement, as I have already declared, the Parliament by an Ordinance deputed three Biſhops, three Earls, three Barons, two Abbots, and two Juſtices to be their Procurators, to attend the King, and in their Names to reſign to him the Homage which they had formerly made to him; for that they would no longer own him for their Sovereign.

Theſe Procurators being come to the King, one Sir *William Truſſel* Knight, Procurator of all the Parliament, in the Name of himſelf, and the reſt of his Colleagues, ſpoke to the King in this manner: *I* William Truſſell, *Procurator of the Prelates, Earls, Barons, and all other People named in my Deputation, being fully and ſufficiently impowered for that purpoſe, do Reſign and Surrender the Homage and Fealty formerly made to you,* Edward *King of* England, *as King, by theſe Perſons mentioned in my Commiſſion, which I do by virtue of the Power aforeſaid, Reſign and Surrender to you* Edward; *and I do diſcharge and acquit theſe Perſons in the beſt manner which Law and Cuſtom will allow of: And I do make this Proteſtation in their Name, That they will not be hereafter in your Fealty and Allegiance; neither will they claim to hold any thing of you as their King; and that they will for ever hereafter take you to be a perſon wholly deprived of all manner of Royal Dignity.* When the King had heard theſe things, he much grieved himſelf for his Evil Deeds; and expreſſed his Grief with Tears and Sighs, for that he had been ſo unfortunate, as to be always miſlead by Falſe and Treacherous Counſels.

This is the Subſtance of what moſt Hiſtorians ſpeak of this matter; only *Thomas* of *Walſingham* relates it in this Manner. That all the Nobility of the Kingdom being ſummoned to hold a Parliament at *London*, the morrow next after the Feaſt, met accordingly, where they were all of Opinion, That the King was unworthy of the Diadem, and that he ought to be depoſed for Reaſons contained in ſeveral Articles exhibited againſt him; and that his eldeſt Son, Prince *Edward*, ſhould unanimouſly be choſen

choſen King; Which was accordingly done; and that the Election was publickly proclaimed in the great Hall at *Weſtminſter*; to which Election all the People agreed, as alſo did the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* and all the Prelates; and that the Archbiſhop made a Speech to the People upon this Theam, *Vox Populi, vox Dei*, exhorting them all to intercede to the King of Kings, in the behalf of their new-elected Sovereign; and that after the Speech ended they all departed: But the Queen being informed, That her Son was elected King, and that her Husband was depoſed, ſeemed (to outward Appearance) to be overwhelmed with Grief, and in a manner diſtracted; the Prince taking compaſſion on the Affliction of his Mother, ſwore That he would never take the Crown upon him, without the Conſent of his Father; whereupon by general Conſent, three Biſhops, two Earls, two Abbots, and three for every County of *England*, and a certain number of Perſons for *London* and other Cities and great Towns, and alſo for the Ports, were ſent on the behalf of the whole Nation, to the King to *Kenelworth*; who acquainted him with the Election of his Son, and earneſtly preſſed him, That he would be pleaſed to renounce the Crown and the Royal Dignity, and that he would permit his Son to reign in his ſtead; otherwiſe they would ſurrender and renounce their Homage; and proceed in the Matter as they ſhould think fit. To this the King anſwered, with Sighs and Tears, That he was mighty ſorry, that he ſhould deſerve ſo ill of his Subjects, and deſired all who were preſent to forgive him: But ſince it could not be otherwiſe, he thanked them for making Choice of his eldeſt Son. Theſe Deputies returned to the Parliament at *London*, and gave them an account of the King's Anſwer, which was ſo ſatisfactory, that it made the Common People rejoyce exceedingly; and immediately all the Commonalty of the Realm admitted Prince *Edward* to be their King, who was then but fifteen Years of Age, and appointed the twentieth of *January* following, to be the firſt Day of his Reign; and then cauſed his Peace to be proclaimed in all the Counties of *England*, in this Form.

Edward,

EDward, *by the Grace of God, King of* England, *Lord of* Ireland, *and Duke of* Aquitaine, *to the Sheriff of* M. *Greeting: Whereas* Edward *our Father, late King of* England, *by the Common Counſel and Aſſent of the Prelates, Earls, Barons and other great Men, and alſo the Commonalty of the whole Realm, hath freely and ſpontaneouſly diveſted himſelf of the Government of this Kingdom; Willing and Granting, That We, as his eldeſt Son and Heir, ſhould take upon Us the Rule and Government of this Kingdom. And We having complyed with the Pleaſure of Our ſaid Father, in this Particular, have by the Advice and Conſent of the ſaid Prelates, Earls and Barons, taken upon Us the Government of this Kingdom; and have, according to Cuſtom, received the Homage and Fealty of the Prelates and Peers. Therefore We being deſirous that Our Peace be inviolably obſerved, for the Tranquility and Quietneſs of Our People, do hereby command you, That immediately upon ſight of theſe Preſents, you cauſe Our Peace to be proclaimed throughout your Bailiwick; ſtrictly charging and commanding all Perſons in Our Name, that preſume to infringe or violate Our ſaid Peace, under the Pain and Penalty of loſing both Life and Member: but that every Man proſecute all manner of Actions, and Plaints without any Violence, according to the Laws and Cuſtoms of Our Realm. Therefore We are, and ſhall be always ready, to adminiſter equal Juſtice in Our Courts, to all and ſingular Complaints, as well Poor as Rich.* Teſte meipſo, &c.

AN

An Exact Account of the

Proceedings and Articles

AGAINST

KING *RICHARD* II.

And the Manner of his

DEPOSITION

AND

RESIGNATION, &c.

Rotulus Parliamenti ſummoniti & tenti apud Weſtmonaſterium, in Feſto Sanctæ Fidei Virginis, anno regni Regis Henrici IV. poſt Conqueſtum primo. Memb. 20.

The Record, and Proceſs of the Renunciation of King Richard, *the Second after the Conqueſt, and of the Acceptance of the ſame Renunciation, together with the Depoſition of the ſaid King* Richard, *are as followeth.*

Memorandum, That on *Monday* in the Feaſt of S. *Michael* the Archangel, in the three and twentieth Year of the Reign of King *Richard* the Second, theſe Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and other Perſons of Quality hereafter named, *viz.* the Lord *Richard Scroop* Archbiſhop of *York*, *John* Biſhop

of *Hereford*, *Henry* Earl of *Northumberland*, *Hugh* Lord *Barnel*, *Thomas* Lord *Berkeley*, the Prior of *Canterbury*, and the Abbot of *Weſtminſter*, Sir *William Thirning* Knight, and *John Markam* Juſtices, *Thomas Stow* and *John Burbacke* Doctors of Laws, Sir *Thomas Erpingham* and Sir *Thomas Gray* Knights, *William de Fergby* and *Dionyſius Lapham* Publick Notaries; being originally deputed (for the Purpoſe hereafter mentioned) by the Advice and Conſent of certain Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Juſtices, and others Learned, as well in the Civil and Canon Laws, as in the Common Law of the Kingdom, being met together at the uſual Place at *Weſtminſter*, went about nine of the clock in the Morning to King *Richard* then in the *Tower* of *London*; where the ſaid Earl of *Northumberland*, in the name of all thoſe who were joyned in Commiſſion with him, acquainted the King, How his Majeſty, ſometime before, at *Conway*, in *North-Wales* (being then at Liberty) did promiſe to *Thomas* Lord Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, and the ſaid Earl of *Northumberland*, That he would reſign and renounce all his Right and Title to the Crown of *England* and *France*, and to the Royal Dignity; for the King himſelf, then at *Conway*, did confeſs his own Inability and Inſufficiency to Govern, and that the Reſignation, Renunciation and Ceſſion ſhould be done in the beſt Manner and Form which could be invented, by the Advice and Direction of Wiſe and Learned Men: The King candidly anſwered the ſaid Lords, and the reſt in Commiſſion with them: That he was very willing to perform effectually what he had formerly promiſed, as to that Matter: But the King earneſtly deſired, That he might firſt diſcourſe *Henry* Duk of *Lancaſter* and the aforeſaid Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, being both his Kinſmen, before he accompliſht what he had promiſed: The King likewiſe deſired, That he might have a Copy of the Ceſſion, which he was to make, that he might conſider of it in the mean while; which was accordingly done: And then the Lords and others, appointed to attend his Majeſty, retired to their reſpective Habitations. The King being very ſolicitous for the Duke of *Lancaſter*'s coming, and in continual Expectation of him, at laſt, the ſame Day, after Dinner, the Duke of *Lancaſter*, the forenamed Lords and Deputies, together with the ſaid Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, came to the King to the Tower, the Lord *Roſs*, the Lord *Willoughby*, the Lord of *Bergavenes*, and many more, being then and there preſent. After the King had conferred with the

Duke

Duke and the Archbiſhop, (as it ſeemed to the ſtanders-by) with chearful Countenance on both ſides, he called to him all Perſons that were preſent, and told publickly, That he was ready to make the Renunciation, and to Renounce and Ceſs, according to the Promiſe he had made, as aboveſaid; ſo immediately, though he might, as it was told him, for the avoiding the Trouble of Reading of ſo long an Inſtrument, appoint another to read the Ceſſion and Renunciation, which was formerly drawn upon a Schrol of Parchment; yet the King willing, to appearance, and with a pleaſant Countenance holding the ſaid Schrol in his Hand, told them, That he would read it himſelf, and read it diſtinctly, and alſo abſolved his Lieges, Renounced, and Ceſſed, and Swore to it; and declared himſelf in many things, as he was reading of it; and afterwards ſubſcribed it with his own Hand, as it more fully appears in the ſaid Inſtrument, the Tenure whereof is as followeth.

The Tenour of the Reſignation.

IN the Name of God, Amen. *I* Richard, *by the Grace of God, King of* England *and* France, *and Lord of* Ireland, *do Abſolve all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and all other Prelates of the Churches, either Secular or Regular, of what Dignity, Degree, State or Condition ſoever they be; and all Dukes, Marqueſſes, Earls, Barons, Vaſſals, and all my Liege Men whatſoever, either Eccleſiaſtical or Secular, by whatſoever Name they are known or diſtinguiſhed, from the Oath of Fealty and Homage, and from all others, made to me; and alſo from the Obligation of Allegiance, Royalty and Dominion, whereby they were, or now are, or any otherwiſe may be engaged or bound to me; and do freely Diſcharge, Releaſe and Acquit them and their Heirs and Succeſſors, for ever,*

of and from the ſaid Obligations and Oaths, and all other things whatſoever; and do declare them to be Free, Abſolved, Diſcharged and Acquitted, as far as it belongs or appertains to my Perſon, to every Intent of Law, which may be drawn in Conſequence from the Premiſes, or any of them. And I do Purely, Spontaneouſly, Simply and Abſolutely, in the beſt Maner, Form and Method that it can be done, by theſe Prefents, Renounce and wholly Reſign, and both by Word and Deed Demiſe and Ceſs of and from all the Royal Dignity, Majeſty and Crown; and alſo to the Dominion and Power of the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominions; and to, of and from my other Dominions and Poſſeſſions belonging or any ways appertaining to me, by what Names ſoever known, within the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominions, or any where elſe. And I do likewiſe Renounce and Reſign, Demiſe and Ceſs of and from all the Right, Colour of Right, Title, Poſſeſſion and Dominion, which I ever had, now have, or can any way have in them, or any of them, or to them, with all their Rights and Appurtenances, or any ways depending upon them, or any of them. And I do likewiſe further Renounce, Reſign, Demiſe, and Ceſs of and from the Rule and Government of the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominions, and their Adminiſtration, of and from all and all manner of meer and mixt Empire and Juriſdiction, in the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominions, belonging, or hereafter to belong to me; and of and from the Name, Honour, Loyalty and Highneſs of a King; and do hereby for ever Depart from them and every of them; ſaving for ever to my Succeſſors, Kings of England, *all Rights in the ſaid Kingdoms, Dominions, and all other the Premiſes and Things Belonging and Appertaining to them or any of them. And I do hereby Confeſs, Acknowledge, Repute, and Truly, and of my Certain Knowledge, Judge my ſelf to have been, and now to be, altogether Inſufficient and Unfit to Rule and Go-*

vern

vern the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominions, with all their Appurtenances; and that I do juſtly deſerve to be Depoſed for my Notorious Demerit. And I do corporally ſwear, upon God's Holy Evangeliſts, That I will never Oppoſe, or Gainſay the ſaid Reſignation, Renunciation, Demiſe and Ceſſion, or will any ways impugn them in Word or Deed, by my ſelf or any others; or will I permit them to be Oppoſed, Gainſayed or Impugned, either Publickly or Privately, as far as in me lyes; but I ſhall for ever maintain the ſaid Reſignation, Renunciation, Demiſe and Ceſſion, to be Firm and Valid, and I will firmly Uphold and Obſerve the ſame, in the whole, and in every part of them, as God ſhall help me, and the Contents of this Book.

I King *Richard*, aforeſaid, do here ſubſcribe my ſelf, with my own proper hand,

RICHARD, R.

The

The King having ſubſcribed the ſaid Renunciation and Ceſſion, declared, That if it were in his Power, to order it ſo, the Duke of *Lancaſter* ſhould ſucceed him in the Kingdom; but ſince it was a Matter which did not wholly depend upon himſelf (as he ſaid) therefore he did conſtitute and appoint the Archbiſhop of *York*, and the Biſhop of *Hereford* to be his Executors, to declare and ſignifie the ſaid Ceſſion and Renunciation to all the States of the Kingdom; and likewiſe further deſired that this his Will and Intention ſhould be made known to all the People; and as a Token that his Will and Intention was ſo, he did publickly and ſolemnly take off his Gold Signet, and put it upon the Duke of *Lancaſter*'s Finger; deſiring that the ſaid Ring or Signet might be ſhewn to all the States of the Kingdom, as a plain manifeſtation of what he had done in this great Affair. This being ended, they took their Leaves of one another, and departed out of the Tower to their ſeveral Habitations.

The next Morning, being *Tueſday*, in the Feaſt of St. *Jerome*, the Archbiſhops of *Canterbury* and *York*, the Duke of *Lancaſter*, and other Dukes and Lords, as well Spiritual as Temporal, (whoſe Names are hereafter mentioned) met in the great Hall at *Weſtminſter*, in a Place there ſumptuouſly prepared for the holding of a Parliament; where there were likewiſe Aſſembled upon this Occaſion a great multitude of the Commonalty, The Duke of *Lancaſter* took his uſual Place according to his Degree. The Chair of State, richly covered with Cloth of Gold, was vacant, no Perſon ſate in it as preſiding in the Aſſembly for the preſent. Things being in this readineſs, the Archbiſhop of *York*, in the Name of himſelf and his Colleague the Biſhop of *Hereford*, publickly declared (according to the King's Injunction) the Kings Ceſſion and Renunciation, ſubſcribed with his own Hand; and how he had deliverd his Signet in confirmation of it. Then the Archbiſhop cauſed the ſaid Ceſſion and Renunciation to be read, firſt in *Latin*, and afterwards in *Engliſh*: Then it was demanded of the States and the People there preſent, (and firſt of the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, who in reſpect of his Dignity and Prerogative, as Metropolitan of all *England*, hath the firſt Vote amongſt all the Prelates and Peers) Whether for their Intereſt, and the common Profit of the Realm, they would accept of the ſaid Ceſſion and Renunciation? The States and People judging it very requiſite, for the Reaſons alledged by the King himſelf in his

his Ceſſion and Renunciation, did ſeverally, and jointly with the People unanimouſly accept of the ſaid Ceſſion and Renunciation. In the next place, it was publickly demanded, Whether, beſides the acceptance of the ſaid Ceſſion and Renunciation it was not very convenient and uſeful to the Kingdom to take away all Scruples and Suſpicions, that all the Catches and Crimes frequently committed by the King, in his evil Government, and now reduced into Writing in the Form of Articles, (for which the King himſelf confeſſes in his ſaid Ceſſion, that he ought deſervedly to be depoſed) ſhould be publickly read and declared to the People? Accordingly the greateſt part of thoſe Articles were then and there publickly read: The Tenor whereof is as followeth;

Then is ſet down the Form of the uſual and accuſtomed Oath which the Kings of *England* take at their Coronation, which the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* hath uſed to require and receive from them; as in the Books of the Pontificals of the Archbiſhops and Biſhops, are more fully contained.

Which ſaid Oath King *Richard* 2. took at his Coronation, and was adminiſtred to him by the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*; and afterwards the King reiterated the ſaid Oath, as it more fully appears of Record amongſt the Rolls of the *Chancery*.

The Form of the Oath.

YOU ſhall entirely keep the Peace of Gods Church, and the People, to the beſt of your Power. *The King anſwers*, He will keep it. You ſhall cauſe right and equal Juſtice and Diſcretion in Mercy and Truth to be done in all your Judgments to the beſt of your Power. *The King anſwers*, He will do it. You ſhall grant, to your Power, that the Juſt Laws and Cuſtoms of the Kingdom be kept

kept inviolable; And you promiſe that you will Protect them, and to the Honour of God, that ye will corroborate ſuch as the People ſhall chuſe. *The King anſwers*, This I Grant and Promiſe.

Then the King in the Preſence of all the People ſwears upon the Altar, that He will perform and keep all the forementioned Premiſes.

ARTICLES *Exhibited againſt the King.*

Imprimis, IT was laid to the King's Charge, That by reaſon of his evil Government in diſſipating and ſquandring the Wealth and Poſſeſſions of the Crown amongſt unworthy Perſons, and by impoſing grievous and inſupportable Burdens upon the People without any Cauſe, and by committing other innumerable Miſchiefs; Therefore, by the King's Conſent and Order, certain Prelates, and other Temporal Lords were Elected and Appointed by the whole Parliament, to govern the Kingdom; who, at their own Charges, were to the utmoſt of their Power, faithfully to endeavour the juſt Adminiſtration of the Government; yet the King Caballing with his Accomplices, did deſign to Impeach the ſaid Lords Spiritual and Temporal (then employ'd in the Publick Buſineſs of the Kingdom) of High Treaſon; and drew in the Judges of the Realm, by fear of Death, and other Torments of their Bodies, to corroborate this his wicked Deſign in buſying themſelves to deſtroy theſe Lords.

2. *Item*, The King cauſed ſeveral Perſons lately to come before him and his Favourites at *Shrewsbury*, and alſo the greateſt part of the Judges, and by various Threats and Menaces, and through ſuch Fear (which might affect Men of Conſtancy) forced and compelled them ſeverally to anſwer to certain Queſtions propoſed to them on the King's behalf touching the Laws of the Kingdom; which Anſwers were againſt their wills, and otherwiſe than they would have anſwered, if they had been at Liberty, and not compelled: By colour of which pretended Reſolutions, the King

King designed to have proceeded afterwards to destroy *Thomas* Duke of *Glouceſter*, the Earl of *Arundel*, the Earl of *Warwick*, and other Lords, who were highly in the King's Diſpleaſure; principally for no other reaſon than becauſe they had deſired the King to apply himſelf to the juſt Adminiſtration of the Government: But by Gods Providence, and the Power of theſe Lords, the King could not bring to effect his intended purpoſe.

3. *Item*, When the Temporal Lords in their defence, had made reſiſtance againſt his Malice and Deceitfulneſs, the ſaid King prefixed a Day for the Meeting of a Parliament, in order to adminiſter Juſtice in that behalf to them, and others his Subjects of the Realm, and while the ſaid Temporal Lords continued peaceably and quietly in their ſeveral Houſes, in hopes, and upon ſure confidence of the Meeting of the ſaid Parliament, the King underhand ſent the Duke of *Ireland* with the Kings Commiſſion and Banner, towards *Cheſter*, who cauſed a great many People in thoſe parts to take Arms, and make an Inſurrection againſt the ſaid Lords and Great Men, and other Parliament-Men of the Kingdom, wherein the King hath committed Perjury, by erecting his Standard publickly againſt that Peace to which he was ſworn; whence proceeded Murders, Captivities, Diſſentions, and other infinite Miſchiefs throughout the whole Kingdom.

4. *Item*, Though the King had pardoned the ſaid Duke of *Glouceſter*, and the Earls of *Arundel* and *Warwick*, and all their Adherents in full Parliament, and for ſeveral years afrer had ſhewed Signs of Peace and Love, and chearful Countenance towards the ſaid Duke and Earls, and all the reſt who were concerned with them; yet the King bearing Gall in his Heart, at length finding an opportunity, cauſed the ſaid Earls of *Arundel* and *Warwick* to be apprehended, and alſo the Duke of *Glouceſter*, who was the Kings Unkle, and Son to King *Edward* 3. of Bleſſed Memory, and Conſtable of *England*, as he was coming in all humility to meet the King with a Noble Train; the ſaid Duke he cauſed to be carried out of the Kingdom, to the Town of *Calice*, and to be there impriſoned, and detained in the Cuſtody of the Earl of *Notingham*, one of the Dukes Appellants; and there without Anſwer, or any Legal Proceſs whatſoever, to be privately ſtrangled, and moſt cruelly and inhumanely murdered. He cauſed the Earl of *Arundel*, being environed and encompaſſed by Armed Men, and an innumerable company of Archers, and others got together by his procurement, to be moſt damnably Beheaded, though the ſaid Earl alledged his

ſaid general Pardon, as alſo a Pardon which he had ſince obtained; and prayed that Juſtice might be done him in Parliament. The Earl of *Warwick* and the Lord *Cobham* he condemned to perpetual Impriſonment, and confiſcated all their Lands and Tenements, as well what was in Fee-ſimple, as what was Entail'd, from them and their Heirs, againſt all Juſtice, and the Laws of the Kingdom, and againſt the expreſs Oath which he had taken, and gave them to their Accuſers.

5. *Item*, When the King cauſed the Duke of *Glouceſter*, and the Earls of *Warwick* and *Arundel* to be Impeached, that he might more cruelly exerciſe his Cruelty upon them, and accompliſh his injurious Will in other things, he engaged to himſelf a great multitude of wicked Fellows from the County of *Cheſter*; ſome of them attending the King in ſeveral parts of the Kingdom, did as well within as without the Verge of the Kings Houſhold, moſt cruelly murther the Liege Subjects of the Realm, and others they beat and wounded, and plundered the Peoples Goods, and refuſed to pay for their Deyt, or any thing they called for, and raviſhed Wives and other Women: And though grievous Complaints were made of theſe Extravagances, to the King, yet the King took no care to redreſs theſe Grievances, or to apply any Remedy to them, but did favour theſe Villains in their wickedneſs, confiding in them and their aſſiſtance againſt all the People of the Kingdom, whereby the Kings faithful Subjects had juſt grounds to fear great Diſorders and Commotions in the Realm.

6. *Item*, Though the King by his Writs cauſed it to be proclaimed throughout all his Kingdom, That he cauſed his Unkle the Duke of *Glouceſter*, and the Earls of *Arundel* and *Warwick* to be taken and arreſted, not for any Congregations or Ridings by them made within the Realm, but for many Extortions, Oppreſſions, and other things done and committed by them againſt his Crown and Dignity; and that it was not the Kings intention that any of the Family of the Duke of *Glouceſter*, or of the Earls of *Arundel* or *Warwick*, or any of them who were in their Company at the Congregation and Riding aforeſaid, ſhould be any way troubled or moleſted for that occaſion; yet the King in Parliament did not impeach the ſaid Lords for Extortions, Oppreſſions, or any of the Matters aforeſaid, but procured Sentence of Death to paſs upon them for their Congregating and Riding aforeſaid: And many of the Family of the ſaid Lords, and others who were in their Company at the time of the ſaid Congregations and Ridings, for

for fear of Death, were compelled to make Fine and Ranſom as Felons and Traytors, to the grievous deſtruction of many of the Kings People; and ſo the King ſubtilly, fraudulently, and maliciouſly did deceive the ſaid Lords and their Friends, and People of the Realm.

7. *Item*, After many of thoſe Perſons who were making Fine and Ranſom, as aforeſaid, had obtained the Kings Charter of full Pardon in the Premiſes, yet they could reap no benefit from the ſaid Pardon, until they had made Fines and Ranſoms for ſaving of their Lives, whereby they were extreamly impoveriſhed; and forthwith the Name and Dignity of the King was much diſhonoured.

8. *Item*, In the laſt Parliament holden at *Shrewsbury*, the *King* deſigning to oppeſs his People, ſubtilly contrived and procured to be granted, That the Power of the Parliament, by the conſent of all the States of the Kingdom, ſhould be and remain in certain Perſons (after the Diſſolution of the Parliament) to determine certain Petitions exhibited in the ſaid Parliament, which could not be then diſpatched; under colour of this Conceſſion, the perſons ſo deputed, proceeded generally to things relating to that Parliament; and this they did by the *King*'s Direction in derogation of the States of Parliament, to the pernicious Example, and the great damage of the whole Realm,; and that they might ſeem to have ſome colour and authority for what they had done, the *King* cauſes the Rolls of the Parliament for his Vote to be changed and razed, againſt the effect of the ſaid Conceſſion.

9. *Item*, That notwithſtanding the *King* at his Coronation had ſwore that he would cauſe right and equal Juſtice and Diſcretion to be adminiſtred in Mercy and Truth in all his Judgments, to the beſt of his Power; yet the *King* without any Mercy, amongſt other things, did rigorouſly decree and ordain, That no man, under heavy Penalties, ſhould interceed to the *King* in the behalf of the Duke of *Lancaſter*, who was baniſhed, or to deſire any favour to be ſhewed unto him; wherein the *King* acted againſt the Obligations of Charity, and therein raſhly violated his ſaid Oath.

10. *Item*, Though the Crown of the Kingdom of *England*, and all the Rights of the ſame Crown, and the Kingdom it ſelf have been in all former Ages abſolutely free, that neither the Pope, nor any other out of the Realm, ought or could intermeddle with them; yet the *King* to corroborate his erroneous Statutes, applied himſelf to the Pope, that he would confirm all Acts made in

his laſt Parliament; whereupon the *King* obtained the Popes Letters, wherein grievous Cenſures were pronounced againſt all thoſe who ſhould preſume any way to gainſay the ſaid Statutes. All which are well known to be againſt the Crown and Dignity of the *King*, and againſt the Statutes and Liberties of this *Kingdom*.

11. *Item*, Though *Henry*, now Duke of *Lancaſter*, by the *Kings* Command, hath preferred a Bill againſt the Duke of *Norfolk*; which Bill contained Matter importing the State and Honour of the King, and the ſaid Duke did duly proſecute his ſaid Bill ſo far, that according to the Kings Order, he ſhould preſent himſelf ready at all points for the Trial by Battel, the King did pronounce and declare by his Decree, That the ſaid Duke of *Lancaſter* had honourably performed his Devoir on this occaſion, as far as it lay in his power to do; and this was publickly proclaimed in the preſence of all the People who were aſſembled together to ſee the combat performed; yet the King without any lawful cauſe, baniſhed the ſaid Duke of *Lancaſter* for ten years, againſt all Juſtice and Laws, the Cuſtoms of this Realm, and the Laws of Arms in this Caſe, thereby committing a damnable Crime.

12. *Item*, Afterwards the *King* was graciouſly pleaſed to gran by his Letters Patents, to the ſaid *Henry*, now Duke of *Lancaſter*, That in his Abſence, during his Baniſhment, That his General Attorney might ſue out Livery for him of certain Inheritances, then fallen to him; and that he ſhould reſpite his Homage for a certain Fine; yet the *King* injuriouſly revoked his Letters Patents againſt the Laws of the Land, and thereby perjured himſelf.

13. *Item*, Notwithſtanding that it is enacted by Parliament, That every Year the Kings Officers, with the Juſtices, and others of the Kings Counſellors, ſhould chuſe Sheriffs for all the Counties of the Kingdom, and that they ſhould nominate ſuch Perſons to the King, as according to their Diſcretion and Conſcience, would promote the Good and Profit of the Realm; the King would not make them Sheriffs which were nominated and elected, but others according to the arbitrarineſs of his Will; ſometimes his Servants, ſometimes ſuch as he knew would not reſiſt his Will for the particular Advantage of himſelf and others, to the great Grievance of his People, and againſt the Laws of his Kingdom, thereby notoriouſly committing Perjury.

14. *Item*, When the King deſired, and had ſeveral ſums of Mony lent by many Lords and others of the Realm, to be paid at a certain day; notwithſtanding that the King by his particular Letters

ters Patents did faithfully promiſe to every Perſon, of whom he had borrowed Mony, that he would repay it at the time limited; this his Promiſe he hath not performed, neither is there any Satisfaction made for the ſaid Monies, wherefore the ſaid Creditors are extremely grieved: And not only they, but many others in the Kingdom, do take the King to be a Man, who is not to be truſted.

15. *Item*, Whereas the King of *England* might honourably live upon the Revenue of his Kingdom, and the Patrimony belonging to the Crown, without oppreſſing his Subjects, as long as the Kingdom is not burdened with the Expences of a War: The King in all the time during the Truces betwixt the Kingdom of *England* and its foreign Enemies, did not only give the greateſt part of the Patrimony of the Kingdom to unworthy perſons, but alſo annually impoſed great Taxes upon his Subjects, whereby he did exceſſively oppreſs his Subjects, and impoveriſh the Kingdom; neither did he employ the Monies ſo raiſed for the Profit and Advantage of the Kingdom, but prodigally ſquandred it in maintenance of his Pomp, Oſtentation and Vain-Glory, and did owe mighty Sums of Mony for Proviſions and other Expences of his Houſhold, though he had greater abundance of Wealth and Treaſure than any of his Anceſtors ever had.

16. *Item*, The King being not willing to maintain and protect the juſt Laws and Cuſtoms of the Realm, but endeavouring to gratifie his Pleaſure in every thing, according to the Arbitrarineſs of his Will, when the Laws of the Kingdom were declared and expounded to him by his Juſtices and others of his Counſel; and when they would deſire him to adminiſter Juſtice to his Subjects according to thoſe Laws, the King with a fierce and ſtern Countenance, would tell them ſometimes, That the Laws were in his Mouth, and at other times, That they were in his Breaſt, and that he alone could make and alter the Laws of his Kingdom; and being ſeduced by that Opinion, would not ſuffer Juſtice to be done to his Subjects, but by his Threats and Menaces forced multitudes of his Subjects to deſiſt from the Proſecution of their Rights at the Common Law.

17. *Item*, That after ſeveral Statutes were made in Parliament, which were binding, until they were particularly repealed by the Authority of another Parliament; the King affecting an uncontroulable Power over the Laws, and that he might do and exerciſe every thing according to the Arbitrarineſs of his Will, (which

he

he could not legally do) cunningly procured a Petition to be exhibited in Parliament, on the behalf of the Commons of the Kingdom; whereby it was granted to the King, that he might be as free as any of his Predeceſſors were before him: By Colour of which Petition, and Conceſſion, the King did command, and cauſe to be put in Execution, ſeveral Things, againſt the Form of the ſaid Statutes, which were not then repealed, whereby he acted expreſly and wilfully againſt his Coronation Oath, the Form whereof we have already ſhewed.

18. *Item*, Though it was enacted and ordained, That no Sheriff ſhould continually exerciſe his Office above one Year; and that three Years ſhould be firſt elapſed, before any ſuch Perſon ſhould again take upon him the Exerciſe of the ſaid Office: The ſaid King *Richard*, partly for his own particular Advantage, and partly at the Sollicitations of others (who aimed at their ſingular Profit and Utility therein) did permit and ſuffer ſome Sheriffs to continue in their Offices two or three Years, againſt the tenour and Effect of the ſaid Statute, whereby he perjured himſelf, and this thing is notorious, Publick and famous among all People.

19. *Item*, Though by the Statutes and Cuſtoms of this Realm, when any Parliament is called, the People in every County of the Kingdom, ought to be free to Elect and Depute Knights for their reſpective Counties, to repreſent them in Parliament, and there to propoſe their Grievances, and proſecute ſuch Remedies in that behalf, as they ſhould think convenient; yet the King, that he might with greater Freedom obtain the effect of his temerarious Will, in his Parliaments, did frequently direct his Mandates to his Sheriffs to return certain Perſons, named by himſelf, to ſerve as Knights, for all the Shires of the Kingdom; which ſaid Knights the King could induce to ſerve his Intereſt (as he frequently did) partly by his various Threats and Menaces, and partly by Rewards, to conſent to theſe things, which were very Prejudicial and Burthenſome to the People, and particularly to grant him a Subſidy upon Wools, for the term of his Life, and another Subſidy for a certain term of Years, to the very great Oppreſſion of his People.

20. *Item*, The King, that he might more abſolutely purſue and accompliſh his Arbitrary Will, in every thing, did unlawfully cauſe and command, That all Sheriffs in his Kingdoms, beſides the

the Ancient accuſtomed Oath, ſhould ſwear, To obey all the Kings Commands under the Great and Privy Seals, and alſo his Letters under the Kings Seal, as after they ſhould be directed to them; and that in caſe the ſaid Sheriffs, within their reſpective Counties, ſhould know that any perſon (of what ſtate or condition ſoever) ſhould publickly or privately ſpeak or divulge any thing, to the Reproach and Scandal of the King's Perſon, that they would arreſt them, and commit them to Priſon, and there detain them in ſafe Cuſtody, until the King's further Pleaſure ſhould be known in that behalf: All this is to be found upon Record. Which ſort of Proceedings, in all Probability, will tend to the deſtruction of all the King's Subjects.

21. *Item*, The King endeavouring to put Tricks upon his People, and by his Subtlety to render himſelf Maſter of their Fortunes (that he might thereby ſuperfluouſly abound in Wealth) cauſed his Subjects of ſeventeen Counties, to be perſuaded to acknowledg, under their Hands and Seals, That they were Traytors, and to ſubmit themſelves to the Kings Pleaſure, by means whereof he obtained great Summs of Mony, both from the Clergy and the Laity, to procure his Favour. And though to pleaſe the People, the King cauſed this Bill Obligatory or Recogniſances (which they had entred into) to be reſtored to them; yet the Procurators of the People, having full Power granted them to oblige the ſaid People and their Heirs to the King; yet notwithſtanding the King cauſed the ſaid Procurators to oblige themſelves under their Seals to the King, in great Sums, and ſo deceived his People, and ſubtilely extorted their Goods from them.

22. *Item*, Though the King by his Coronation Oath was bound to preſerve all the Liberties of the Church of *England*, yet the *King*, upon the account of his Voyage into *Ireland*, by his Letters ſtrictly commanded many Religious Men, as Abbots and Priors of the *Kindom*, that ſome of them for the Service of the ſaid Voyage ſhould furniſh him with Horſes, and others not only with Horſes, but with Carts and Carriages; and in caſe of Default, they were to remit into *Ireland* certain great Sums of Mony, ſpecified in the *Kings* Letters: By which way of Writing, the ſaid Religious Perſons, out of Fear, were conſtrained to comply with the *Kings* Will and Command, whereby they were grievouſly impoveriſhed and oppreſſed, to the manifeſt derogation of the Eccleſiaſtical Liberty;

Liberty; under which Pretence the ſaid *King Richard* committed Perjury.

23. *Item*, In many of the *Kings* great Councils, when the Lords of the *Kingdom*, the Judges, and others, who were bound to adviſe the *King* faithfully, in matters relating to the ſtate of the King and Kingdom; the ſaid Lords, Judges and others, as they gave their faithful Advice, according to their Diſcretion, were frequently, upon a ſudden, reproved by the King, that they did not dare to ſpeak Truth, in the great Matters, touching the ſtate of the King and Kingdom.

24. *Item*, The King going into *Ireland*, took with him the Publick Treaſury, the Crowns and Jewels, being the Goods of the Kingdom, which in all Ages had been kept in the Archives of the Kingdom, for the honour of the King, and the preſervation of the Kingdom, in caſe of Extremity; and this he did without the conſent of the States of the Kingdom, ſo hereby the *Kingdom* was much impoveriſhed, unleſs God of his Mercy had otherwiſe provided, that theſe Goods ſhould be retaken, againſt the *Kings* Will. And furthermore, the *King* cauſed the Rolls of the Records, which concerned the State and Government of the *Kingdom*, to be blotted and raſed, to the great Prejudice of the People, and to the Diſinheriſon of the Crown; and as it is verily believed, this was done in favour and ſupport of his Evil Government.

25. *Item*, The *King* was ſo continually accuſtomed to Inconſtancy and Diſſimulation, both in his Words and Writings, and eſpecially when he writ to the Pope, *Kings* and other Lords, both within and out the *Kingdom*, and alſo to others of his Subjects, that no Man living, who knew his Humour, would or could confide in him: Nay, he was reputed ſo Falſe and Inconſtant, that it proved to be the Scandal, not only of his own Perſon, but alſo of the whole *Kingdom*, and chiefly among all the Foreigners of the World, who had any knowledg of him.

26. *Item*, Though the Lands, Tenements, Goods and Chattels of every Freeman, by the Ancient Laws of the *Kingdom* ought not to be ſeiſed upon, unleſs they were forfeited; yet the thing deſigning and endeavouring to enervate the ſaid Laws, did frequently ſay and affirm, in the preſence of many Lords and others of the Commonalty of the *Kingdom*, That the Lives of all his Subjects, their Lands, Tenements, Goods and Chattels, were wholly at his Diſpoſal, without any Forfeiture; which is altogether againſt the Laws and Cuſtoms of the *Kingdom*. 27. *Item.*

27. *Item*, Though it be Ordain'd and Enacted, and ſince Confirmed, That no Free-man be taken, *&c.* nor by any manner of means deſtroyed, nor that the *King* ſhould proceed againſt him, but by the Lawful Judgment of his Peers, or by the Laws of the Land: Yet, by the direction, command, and appointment of the *King*, ſeveral of his Liege People being maliciouſly accuſed of ſpeaking either publickly, or privately, ſomewhat which tended to the diſpraiſe, ſcandal, and diſgrace of the *King*, have been arreſted, and impriſon'd, and brought before the Conſtable and Marſhal of *England* in the military Court; in which Court, the ſaid accuſed perſons could not be admitted to make any other Anſwer, than that they were not guilty, and that they would juſtify and defend themſelves by their bodies, and not otherwiſe, notwithſtanding that their Accuſers, and Appellers, were young, ſtrong, and healthful, and that the perſons accuſed, were old, lame, impotent, and infirm; which in all probability, was like to prove the Deſtruction, not only of the Lords and Peers of the Kingdom, but alſo of all and ſingular, the Commonalty of the Realm, when the *King* would ſo wilfully violate the Laws of the Kingdom, there is no queſtion to be made, but that he had perjured himſelf.

28. *Item*, Though the People of *England* be ſufficiently tyed and bound to their King, by virtue of their Allegiances, and the King is well able by the Laws and Cuſtoms of the Realm, to puniſh and correct his Subjects, in caſe they any way offend; yet the King deſigning the extream Oppreſſion of his People, that he might be the better able to follow, and put in execution, the arbitrary Dictates of his fooliſh and unlawful Will, by his Letters directed to all the Counties of *England*, did ſtrictly enjoin and command, That all his Subjects, whatſoever, as well Spiritual as Temporal, ſhould take certain general Oaths, which were too burdenſome to them, which in all likelihood would have cauſed the final Deſtruction of all his People; and beſides that, they were to ratify the ſaid Oaths under their Hands and Seals; which ſaid Command of the King, the people of the Realm obey'd, leſt they ſhould incurr the King's Diſpleaſure, and alſo for fear of death.

29. *Item*, When the King's Subjects ſued in the Eccleſiaſtical Court, in Cauſes meerly Eccleſiaſtical and Spiritual, the parties would endeavour to obtain prohibitions for the Chancery, to ſtop the proceedings in the ſpiritual Court, which prohibitions the

Chancellor would juſtly refuſe to grant; yet the King by his Letters under his Signet, hath frequently and ſtrictly, prohibited theſe Eccleſiaſtical Judges to proceed in ſuch Cauſes; the King in ſo doing, hath wickedly violated the Liberties of the Church, contained in *Magna Charta*, which by his Oath he was bound to maintain, and hath alſo to his damnation, incurred the ſentence of Excommunication, pronounced by the Holy Fathers againſt all ſuch Violaters.

30. *Item*, The King without any reaſonable or lawful Cauſe, and without any proceſs of Law, did condemn *Thomas Arundel*, Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, his Spiritual Father, to perpetual Baniſhment, who by the crafty Contrivance of the King, had abſented himſelf from the *Parliament*, which was guarded by armed men in a hoſtile manner: This he did againſt the known Laws of his Kingdom, which he had ſworn to maintain and protect.

31. *Item*, It appears by the King's laſt Will and Teſtament, under his great and privy Seals, and ſigned with his Signet, that it contains (amongſt other things) this Clauſe or Article: *Item*, Our Will is, That after the payment of the juſt debts of our Houſhold, our Chamber and Wardrobe, for the payment whereof we bequeathed *twenty thouſand Pounds*, and alſo *five* or *ſix thouſand Marks* to be reſerved for our Executors, which we appoint our ſaid Executors to diſpoſe of, for the more plentiful ſubſiſtence of the leprous people, and Chaplains attending them, who were founded by Us at *Weſtminſter* and *Bermondſey*, That then the reſidue of our Gold ſhall be, and remain to our Succeſſor, in caſe he approves, ratifies, confirms, and maintains, and will cauſe to be maintained, and firmly obſerved, all and ſingular the Statutes, Ordinances, and Judgments made, ordained, and given in our *Parliament* began at *Weſtminſter* the *Seventeenth Day* of *September*, in the *One* and *Twentieth* Year of our Reign; and in the ſame *Parliament* adjourned to *Shrewsbury*, and there Held: And alſo all Statutes, Ordinances, and Judgments made, ordained, and given by the authority of the ſaid *Parliament* Held at *Coventry*, the *ſixteenth* day of *September*, in the *Two* and *Twentieth* Year of our Reign, and afterwards Held at *Weſtminſter* on the *eighteenth* day of *March* in the ſame Year; and likewiſe ſhall maintain, and keep all other Ordinances, and Judgments which may happen hereafter to be made by the authority of the ſaid *Parliament*; otherwiſe, if our Succeſſor will not, or ſhall refuſe

(which we do not believe he will) to perform the premiſes, Then our Will is, That *Thomas Duke* of *Surrey*, *Edward Duke Dean Merle*, *John Duke* of *Exeter*, and *William Leſurpe*, *Earl* of *Wiltſhire*, ſhall have the ſaid reſidue of our Gold (the ſaid debts of our Houſhold-Chamber and Wardrobe being firſt pay'd, and the ſaid *five* or *ſix Thouſand Marks* being reſerved as aforeſaid) to defend and maintain the ſaid Statutes, Ordinances, and Judgments to the utmoſt of their power ; and that even to death, if need require: and we do hereby charge their Conſciences with the due performance of all and ſingular the premiſes, as they ſhall anſwer for it at the great day of Judgment. By which Article it plainly appears, That the King did endeavour, as well in his life, as after his death, obſtinately to maintain and defend all thoſe Statutes, and Ordinances, which are erroneous, and unjuſt, and repugnant to all Right and Reaſon : This he did without any regard to the danger of his ſoul, nor to the total deſtruction of his Kingdom, and all his Subjects therein.

32. *Item*, King *Richard* in the Eleventh Year of his Reign, in the Chapel of his *Mannor* of *Langley*, in the preſence of the Dukes of *Lancaſter* and *York*, and many other Lords, did voluntarily ſwear upon the Venerable Sacrament of *Chriſt*'s Body, there placed upon the Altar, That he would never afterwards moleſt or trouble his Unkle the Duke of *Glouceſter*, for any Offence committed by him (as was then pretended) againſt the King's Perſon ; and if he had any ways offended, the King did freely and heartily forgive him : The King being very deſirous (as it ſeemed to the Company) to ſatisfy his ſaid Unkle, that he might ſafely confide in the King's good opinion of him ; afterwards, notwithſtanding his ſolemn Oath, the King cauſed the ſaid Duke to be horribly and cruelly murder'd for theſe pretended Offences, thereby incurring the damnable Guilt of Perjury.

33. *Item*, One of the Knights of the Shire, being a Member of *Parliament*, impeached *Thomas* Lord Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, before the King, and all the States of the Kingdom, of miſdemeanours, falſely pretended to be committed by him againſt the King's Majeſty, tho' the Arch-Biſhop was then and there preſent, and offered to anſwer to all things which were laid to his Charge, and deſired leave of the King to be admitted to do it, being fully confident (as he ſaid) that he was able to clear his Innocence in that behalf: Yet the King contriving by all the ways and means

he could, to oppreſs the ſaid Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, and abſolutely to ruine him (as it proved afterwards) ſitting in his Chair of State, ſpeaking to the ſaid Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury* with cheerful Countenance, and much ſeeming Kindneſs, did adviſe him, and earneſtly deſire him, that he would let it alone for the preſent, and put it off to a more convenient Opportunity; nothing being done that day, the King fraudulently and cunningly did deceive the ſaid Arch-Biſhop from day to day, for five days and more, adviſing, and perſwading, that he ſhould not come to the *Parliament*, but ſtay at home and fear nothing, and the King faithfully promiſed him, that no prejudice or damage ſhould be done him in his abſence; yet nevertheleſs the King in the ſame *Parliament*, without any reaſonable Cauſe, gave Judgment againſt the ſaid Arch-Biſhop, while he was abſent, that he ſhould be baniſhed during the King's Pleaſure, without being ever ſummoned to anſwer for himſelf, and confiſcated all his Goods, againſt the Laws and the Juſtice of the Kingdom, under which pretence, the King committed wilful Perjury. The King would have palliated his Craftineſs in this matter, by many fair and ſpecious Diſcourſes which he frequently had with the Arch-Biſhop, and endeavoured to clear himſelf of this Injury which was done, by Charging it upon others, and laying the Blame upon them. The Arch-Biſhop diſcourſing with the King, and the Duke of *Norfolk*, and other Lords and Great Men about this Affair, told them, with Tears in his eyes, that he was not the firſt who ſuffer'd Baniſhment, nor ſhould be the laſt, becauſe he thought that the Duke of *Norfolk*, and the other Lords, in a ſhort time ſhould follow him, and confidently told the King, the Rigour of theſe ſort of proceedings, would one day light upon the King's own head, to which the King with a dejected Countenance (as if he had been aſtoniſhed) preſently anſwer'd, That what he thought, might well happen, and that he ought to be expell'd out of his Kingdom by his own Subjects; and the King told him further, if ſuch a thing ſhould happen, that he would repair to the ſame place, where the ſaid Arch-Biſhop ſhould be; and that the ſaid Arch-Biſhop might give the greater Credit to what the King told him, he ſhewed the Arch-Biſhop a great of Gold, which was faſtened to his waſte under his upper Garment, and told him, he might certainly rely upon it, that when he ſhould ſend him that which was to be the Sign betwixt them, that the ſaid Arch-Biſhop

ſhop ſhould immediately return into *England*, from any place whatſoever that the King ſhould be then reſident in; and that the Arch-Biſhop might have the greater reaſon to confide in the King, he ſent to the Arch-Biſhop, to adviſe ſecretly to convey to him all his Plate, Jewels, and other things belonging to his Chapel, that they might be kept in ſafe Cuſtody, leſt any perſon ſhould injuriouſly ſeize the ſaid Goods, under pretence of that Judgment which was given for his Baniſhment: This being done under the greateſt Confidence, the Arch-Biſhop having viewed the ſaid Goods, cauſed them to be laid up in certain Cheſts, which he ordered to be lock'd and ſealed by one of the Arch-Biſhops Clerks; and having taken care of the Cheſts, he ſent the Keys by the ſaid Clerk, to the Arch-Biſhop: The King afterwards unknown to the Arch-Biſhop cauſed the Cheſts to be broke open, and diſpoſed of the ſaid Goods at his pleaſure: The King alſo faithfully promiſed the Arch-Biſhop, that if he would prepare himſelf for his Journey, towards the Port of *Southampton*, in order to depart the Realm, he would upon the Queen's Interceſſion, recall him immediately; and if it ſhould happen the Arch-Biſhop ſhould go out of the Kingdom, yet he ſhould certainly return before *Eaſter* next following, for he would not for any thing loſe his Arch Biſhop, and this he faithfully promiſed by his Corporal Oath taken upon the Croſs of St. *Thomas* the *Martyr*, formerly Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*: Notwithſtanding the ſaid promiſes, the King forced the ſaid Arch-biſhop to depart the Realm, and preſently diſpatched ſpecial Letters to the Apoſtolick See for his Tranſlation. In this manner, and by other frauds and deceits of the King, the Arch-biſhop being a harmleſs well-meaning man, was cunningly circumvented.

The States of the Kingdom being ſeverally and jointly ask'd, were all of Opinion, That the aforeſaid Crimes and miſcarriages were ſufficient and notorious cauſe, to depoſe the ſaid King: And alſo the Kings confeſſion of his own inſufficiency, and other things contained in the ſaid Renunciation and Ceſſion, were publickly read. Therefore all the States of the Kingdom unanimouſly conſented that they ſhould forthwith proceed to depoſe the ſaid King, for the greater ſafety and tranquillity of the People, and the common welfare of the Realm; whereupon the ſaid States & Commonalty, then, and there unanimouſly and with one accord, did publickly conſtitute and appoint certain Commiſſioners, *viz.* The Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*, the Abbot of *Glaſtonbury*, the Earl of *Glouceſter*, the Lord

Lord *Berkeley*, Sir *Thomas Erpingham*, and Sir *Thomas Grey*, Knights, and *Will. Thirnynge* Juſtice,) to pronounce the Sentence of Depoſition; and in the Name, and by the Authority of the ſaid States, to Depoſe the ſaid King *Richard* from his Royal Honour, Dignity and Majeſty, as it had been uſed in the like caſes by the ancient Cuſtom of the Realm: The ſaid Commiſſioners taking upon them the Execution of the ſaid Commiſſion; and ſitting near the Tribunal before the Chair of State, after ſome deliberation had upon the matter, they pronounced the Sentence of Depoſition in the Name, and by the Authority of all the States; which ſaid ſentence being reduced into Writing, was openly and publickly read by the ſaid Biſhop of St. *Aſaph*, by the direction and conſent of the reſt of the Commiſſioners, and that in theſe Words:

In the Name of GOD, Amen. *We*, John *Biſhop of* Aſaph, John *Abbot of* Glaſtonbury, Thomas *Earl of* Glouceſter, Thomas *Lord* Berkeley, *Sir* Thomas Erpingham, *and Sir* Thomas Grey, *Knights, and* William Thirnynge, *Juſtice, being Commiſſioners ſpecially Deputed by the Nobles and Peers of* England, *and the Commonalties of the ſame, repreſenting all the States of the Kingdom, and now ſitting by the Tribunal, due conſideration being had of the manifold Perjuries, and many other Crimes of the ſaid* Richard, *cruelly done and committed in the Adminiſtration of the Government of the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominion during the time of his Reign, being publickly and openly examined, exhibited, and rehearſed before the ſaid States, which have been, and ſtill are ſo publick, notorious, manifeſt and famous; that none of them could, or can be, denied or concealed; and alſo the confeſſion of the ſaid* Richard, *acknowledging and reputing, and ſincerely of his certain knowledge, judging himſelf to have been, and now to be wholly inſufficient and unfit to Rule and Govern the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominion with their Appurtenances; and for his notorious demerits, that he deſerved juſtly to be Depoſed, as was formerly declared by the ſaid* Richard *himſelf, and by his command and direction publiſhed before all the ſaid States, and which were notified and expreſſed to them in their vulgar Language: Mature deliberation being had upon theſe things, and all other matters tranſacted in this Affair before Us, and the ſaid States; We, in the name and ſtead, and by virtue of the Authority committed to us, do pronounce, adjudge, and declare the ſaid* Richard, *to have been, and to be unfit, unable, inſufficient, and unworthy, and altogether uncable to Rule and Govern the ſaid Kingdoms and Dominion, and the Rights and Appurtenances of the ſame; and for the Reaſons aforeſaid,*

We

We do adjudge, that he justly deserves to be deposed of his Kingly Honour and Dignity: If any such Honour or Dignity now remains on him, and by Virtue of the same Authority, We do Depose by this our definitive Sentence contained and expressed in these Writings, and do expresly injoin all, and singular, the Lords, Arch-bishops, Bishops and Prelates, Dukes, Marquesses, Earls, Barons, Knights, Vassals, and all others of the said Kingdoms and Dominions, and all other Subjects whatsoever of other places belonging to the said Kingdoms and Dominion; that none of them hereafter shall presume to obey the said Richard *as King of the said Kingdoms and Dominion.*

The said States being desirous, that nothing should be omitted, which might or ought to have been done in the Premises, and thereupon their opinions being severally asked, they unanimously Constituted the Persons before named for their Commissioners, to be their Procurators, jointly and severally to resign and restore to the said King *Richard*, the Homage and Fealty which had formerly been made to him, and to acquaint him with all the particulars relating to the said Deposition and Renuntiation, if they should think fit.

It being apparent from what had been done, that the Kingdom of *England* with its appurtenances was vacant, immediately the said *Henry* Duke of *Lancaster*, rising from his place, and standing up, so that he might be easily seen by the People, with much humility signing himself with the sign of the Cross upon his Fore-head and his Breast, and having first called upon the Name of Jesus, made his Claim in *English* to the Kingdom of *England*, (being then vacant as aforesaid) together with the Crown, and all its members and appurtenances; he made his Claim in this form of words:

In the Name of the Fader, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, I Henry *of* Lancastre, *challenge this Rewme of* Ynglond *and the Croune with all the Members and the Appurtenances, als I that am descendit be ryght Lyne from the Blode comeinge fro the gude Lord King* Henry *therde, and thorghe that Ryght that God of his Grace hath sent me, with helpe of my Kyn, and of my Frendes to recover it, the which Rewme was in poynt to be undone for default of Governance and undueinge of the gude Laws.*

After the Duke had made this Claim and demand, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and all the States there present being singly and conjunctively asked what they thought of the said claim and demand; The said States, together with all the People, without any delay or difficulty, unanimously consented that the said Duke

should

ſhould Reign over them; and thereupon the King ſhewed to all the States of the Kingdom, King *Richard*'s Signet, which he had delivered to him as an Expreſs Token of his willingneſs to reſign the Crown, as is before mentioned. The Arch-biſhop of *Canterbury* taking King *Henry* by the right Hand, led him to the Chair of State, and after the King had kneeled before the Chair and prayed for ſome time, the Arch-biſhop of *Canterbury* being aſſiſted by the Arch-biſhop of *York* placed in the Regal Chair, which was attended with the loud acclamations of the over-joyed People, the huzza of the ſpectators being hardly yet fully ſilenced, The Arch-biſhop of *Canterbury*, made a ſhort Speech or Sermon in theſe Words.

Man ſhall Rule over the People. King: Chap. 9.

THeſe are the Words of the King of Kings ſpeaking to *Samuel*, and Inſtructing him what ſort of Perſon ſhould be appointed to Govern the People; when they deſired that a King might be given them, which may be applied and not impertinently to our preſent King, which words if they be ſtrictly conſidered, will afford us matter of great Conſolation; for God doth not threaten us, as he did formerly threaten the People by the mouth of *Eſay chap.* 3. *I will give them Children to be their Princes:* But out of his mercy, who when he is angry remembers mercy, hath viſited his People, and Children ſhall not Govern now as it was formerly in this Kingdom; but the Lord tells us, *quod Vir dominabitur Populo*, A man ſhall govern the People: That of the Apoſtles ſpeaking in the perſon of a Child may not improperly be applied to many of the former Governors of this Realm, Cor. 13. *When I was a Child, I ſpake like a Child, underſtood like a Child, and thought like a Child.* Obſerve the Apoſtle ſpeaks thrice; he ſpake, he underſtood, and thought like a Child. As to ſpeech, it is certain that a Child is inconſtant in ſpeaking, he eaſily tells the truth, and as eaſily that which is falſe: He eaſily promiſes in words, but ſoon forgets it. But theſe things are inconvenient and grievous to a Kingdom, neither is it poſſible that a Kingdom ſhould flouriſh where ſuch qualities Reign; but a Kingdom is free from theſe imperfections, when a Man Reigns; for it becomes a man to keep a watch upon his tongue: and it is not a child that rules now, but a man, of whom I hope that of *Eccleſ.* 9. (may ſay) *Bleſſed is the Man who is not faulty*

in

in his Tongue: Then the Apoſtle ſays, *I underſtood as a Child*; a Child underſtands nothing, but what pleaſes and flatters him, neither doth he love a man who reaſons according to truth, but hates him beyond meaſure: Truth was lately ſo much diſcountenanced, that no man durſt ſpeak, whence it is very plain and evident, that he who governed, underſtood as a Child. Man underſtands Wiſdom, and not ſuch unworthy things: Therefore by the Grace of God, it is ſaid of that Man what is written *Eccleſ.* 9. *Bleſſed is the Man who ſhall dwell with Wiſdom.* As a Child loves vanity, ſo a Man underſtands Truth and Wiſdom; Therefore truth ſhall enter in, and let flattery depart from us, (which hath done ſo much miſchief in our Kingdom) becauſe he is a Man who rules the People, who underſtands Truth, not Vanity and Flattery. Thirdly, The Apoſtle ſays, *He thought as a Child*; For a Child only ſtudies to practiſe the dictates of his will, not thoſe of reaſon; therefore where a Child governs, there an arbitrary will only reigns, and reaſon is quite baniſhed away; and alſo where the will only bears ſway, and that there is no room left for reaſon or conſtancy, there muſt needs be great danger near at hand; from which danger we are delivered, becauſe a Man Rules, he who does not ſpeak like a Child, but as a Man of perfect reaſon. *I did not come to do my own will, but the will of him who ſent me; that is,* God's: And therefore we ſhall ſay of this Man, that he will not only dwell with Wiſdom; but like a Man, and not as a Child, he will ſeriouſly conſider the Providence of God; that is, he will diligently look about him, that the Will of God, not his own, be done. And ſo inſtead of a willful wanton Child, now a Man rules over the People; and ſuch a Man of whom it ſhall be ſaid, A King will reign, and he ſhall be Wiſe, and he ſhall execute Juſtice and Judgment upon the Earth.

This Speech being ended, King *Henry*, to ſatisfie the minds of his Subjects, ſtood up, and publickly ſpoke to them in theſe words following.

Sirs, *I thank God and yowe Spiritual and Temporal, and all the States of the Lond, and doe yowe to wyte it es noght my will, that no Man thynke, that be way of Conqueſt I wold diſherit any Man of his Herytage, Franches or other Ryghts, that hym ought to have, to put him off that, that he has; and has had by the gude Lawes and*

Cuſtomes of this Rewme, except thos perſons that has been agan the gude purpoſe, and the common profit of the Rewme.

Immediately it was conſidered of, That by the former vacancy of the Royal Dignity, by Virtue of the Ceſſion and Depoſition aforeſaid, all the Authority of the Juſtices, Sheriffs, and other Officers through the Kingdom, was determined: Therefore, leaſt the People ſhould be any ways grieved for want of the adminiſtration of Juſtice, the King preſently Conſtituted his principal Officers and Juſtices, and every one of them took the uſual Oath to the King; thereupon the King cauſed Proclamation to be made, That, upon *Monday* next, after the Feaſt of St. *Michael*, there would be a *Parliament* held in the ſame Place, and, that upon *Monday* next after that, *viz.* in the Feaſt of St. *Edward*, the King would be Crown'd at *Weſtminſter*, and that all thoſe who would make their Claim to do any ſervice at the ſaid Coronation, (whereby any right or duty accrue to them) that they ſhould repair to the *White-hall* of the Palace, before the Steward, Conſtable, and Marſhal of *England*, on *Saturday* next, before the day of the ſaid *Parliament*, and put in their Petitions, and the Petitioners ſhould have Juſtice done them; And as to the ſhortneſs of the time for the Convening of the ſaid *Parliament*, there was this Proteſtation made on the King's behalf, *viz.* That it was not the King's intention that any inconvenience ſhould thence accrue to the States of the Kingdom, or that hereafter it ſhould be drawn into precedent, and that the ſhortneſs of the time for the ſaid Convention, for the benefit and advantage of the Kingdom, and eſpecially to ſpare the trouble and expences of all His People, and that the Grievances of the People might be ſpeedily redreſſed.

All theſe things being thus done as we have related, the King roſe from the Chair of State, and looked upon the People with a Pleaſant and Chearful Countenance, and then withdrew with the general acclamation of His People; and afterwards, the ſame day in the *White-Hall* of the Palace, He magnificently Feaſted the Peers of the Realm, and the Gentry, who were there at this time in great numbers.

On next *Wedneſday* following, the Procurators being deputed as aforeſaid, went to the Late King *Richard* to the Tower, as they were ordered by the States, and the ſaid Juſtice *Thirnynge*, for himſelf,

ſelf, and his Fellows and Comprocurators, in the Name of all the States, and the People of *England*, did acquaint the ſaid *Richard*, how his Renuntiation was accepted of, and alſo with the Manner, Cauſe and Form of the ſaid ſentence of Depoſition; and did alſo ſurrender and reſign to the ſaid *Richard*, Late King of *England*, the Homage and Fealty, formerly made to him, in theſe following Words.

The Speech which *William Thirnynge* made Monſieur *Richard*, Late King of *England*, in the Tower of *London*, in His Chamber, the *Wedneſday* next after the Feaſt of St. *Michael* the Arch-Angel, is as followeth.

SIR,

IT *is wele known to yowe, that ther was a* Parlement *ſommon'd of all the States of the Rewne, for to be at* Weſtmynſtre, *and to begin on the* Tueſday *in the Morn of the Feaſt of St* Michael *the Arch-Angel, that was yeſterday; by cauſe of which Sommons, all the States of this Lond were there gadyr'd, the which States have made thes ſame Perſons that ben comen here to yowe now her Procurators, and gafen hem full Auctority and Power, and charged hem for to ſay the Words that we ſhall ſay to yowe in her Name, and on their Behalve, that is to witten; the Biſhop of St.* Aſſa, *for Erſ-Biſhops and Biſhops; the Abbot of* Glaſtonbury, *for Abbots and Priors, and all other Men of Holy Chirche, Seculers, and Rewelers; the Earl of* Glouceſter, *for Dukes and Earls; the Lord* Berkeley, *for Barons and Bannerettes; Sir* Thomas Erpingham *Chamberleyne, for all the Bachilers and Commons of this Land by* South; *Sir* Thomas Grey *for all the Bachilers and Commons by* North, *and my felawe* John Markham *and me, for to come wyth them for all thes States; and ſo, Sir, thes words and the doyng that we ſhall ſay to yowe is not onlich our words, bot the words, and the doyngs of all the States of this Lond, and our charge, and in her name; and he anſwered and ſaid, That he wyſt wele, that we would noght ſay, but as we were charged: Sir, ye remember yowe wele, that on* Monday *in the Feaſt of St.* Michael *the Arch-Angel, ryght here in this Chamber, and in what preſence ye Renounſed and Ceſſed of the State of King, and of Lordſhip, and of all the Dignity and Wyrſhip that long thereto, and aſſoiled all your Leiges of her Legiance and Obeiſance that longed to*

yowe uppe the fourm that is contened in the same Renuntiation and Cessíon, whiche ye Redde your self by your Mouth, and Affirmed it by your Oathe, and by your own Writing, upon whiche ye Made and Ordained your Procurators, the Ers: Bíshop of Yerk, *and the Bíshop of* Hereford, *for to notify and declare, in your Name, the Renuntiation and Cessíon at* Westminstre, *to all the States, and all the People that was there gadyr'd, because of the Sommons foresaid; the whiche thus don Yesterday, by thes Lordes your Procurateurs, and wele herd and understonden; thes Renuntiation and Cessíon were pleinelich and freelich accepted, and fullich agreed by all the States and People foresaid. And over this, Sir, at the instance of all thes States and People, there were certine Articles of Defaults in your Governance, redde there, and tho wele herd, and pleinelich understonden to all the States foresaid hem thoght hem so trewe, and so notorie and knowen, that by the causes, and as by mo other as thei said and havyng consideration to your owne words, in your own Renuntiation and Cessíon, that ye were not worthy, ne sufficient, ne able for to Govern, for your own demerites, as it is more pleinerlich contened therein, hem thoght that wes Reasonable, and Cause for to Depose yowe, and her commissaries; that thei made and ordenyed as it is of record there Declared, and Decreed, and Adjudged yowe for to be Deposed and Prived, and indeed Deposed yowe, and Prived yowe of the Astate of King, and of the Lordship contened in the Renuntiation and Cessíon forsaid, and of all the dignity and wyrshíps, and of all the administration longed thereto. And we Procurateurs to all these States and People foresaid, as we be charged by hem, and by her Auctority giffen us, and in her Name yeilde yowe uppe for all the States and People foresaid Homage, Liege and Feoute, and all Ligeance, and all other Bonds, Charges, and Services that long thereto, and that non of all the States and People fro this time forward ne bere yowe feyth, ne do yowe obeisance, as to their King.* And he answered and said, That he looked not thereafter, but he said, that after all this, he hoped that his Cosyn would be Gude Lord to hym.

Thursday the 24*th.* of *October*, the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, in the King's Name, did Charge and Enjoin the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and all others then present upon their Allegiance, that what should be Proposed and Treated of amongst them, should be kept very secret, and that it should not be discovered to any person living; afterwards the Question

ſtion was put to them by the Earl of *Northumberland*, (for the ſafety of the King, and all the States of the Realm) what they would adviſe was fit to be done with *Richard* the late King, in order to his keeping in ſafe cuſtody; but the King would have his Life ſav'd; to which all the Lords (whoſe names are hereunder written) being ſeverally examined, anſwered, That it ſeemed adviſeable to them, that he ſhould be put under a ſafe and ſecret guard, and in ſuch a place where no concourſe of people might reſort to him; and that he be guarded by truſty and ſufficient Perſons, and that no perſon who had been familiar with him, ſhould be about his Perſon, and that it ſhould be done in the moſt ſecret manner, that can be deviſed.

The Names of the Lords, who being asked, Aſſented to the Queſtion, are theſe following.

The Arch-Biſhop of Canterbury.
Arch-Biſhop of York.
Biſhop of London.
Biſhop of Ely.
Biſhop of Nichol.
Biſhop of Norwich.
Biſhop of Rocheſter.
Biſhop of Saliſbury.
Biſhop of Exeter.
Biſhop of Chicheſter.
Biſhop of St. Aſaph.
Biſhop of Cheſter.
Biſhop of St. Davids.
The Biſhop of Landaff.
Biſhop of Durham.
Abbot of Weſtminſter.
Abbot of St. Albans.
Abbot of St. Auſtin.
Abbot of Bury.
Abbot of St. Doverwick.
Abbot of Glouceſter.
Abbot of Battail.
The Prince.
Duke of Norwich.
Earl of Arundel.
Earl of Warwick.
Earl of Stafford.

Earl

Earl of Northumberland.
Earl of Suffolk.
Earl of Worceſter.
Lord Roſs.
Lord Grey *of* Ruthin.
Lord Charleton.
Lord Bardolfe.
Lord Willoughby.
Lord Furnival.
Lord Ferrers.
Lord Beaumount.
Lord Berkley.
Lord Fitz-wauters.
Lord Manley.
Lord Seales.
Lord Morley.
Lord Burnel.
Lord Lovel.
Lord Camoi.
Lord Seymore.
Lord Crombwel.
Lord Cobham.
Monſieur Henry Percy.
Monſieur Rubart Scroope.
Lord Fitz-hugh.
Lord of Bergaveney.
Lord Lomley.
Baron of Greyſtock.
Baron of Hilſon.
Monſieur Thomas Erpingham, *Chamberlain.*
Mon. Mayhew Gowinay.

FINIS.

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